



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Members

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Atkins • Susan Lew • Judy McCarty • MaryAnne Pinter • Katie Sullivan

MINUTES

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY Wednesday December 5, 2007

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners:

Present: Susan Atkins, Matthew Hervey, Mel Katz, Judy McCarty, Katie Sullivan

Absent: Susan Lew, MaryAnne Pinter

Staff: Anna Tatár, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Bruce Johnson, Deputy Director; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

Public: Brenda Mason

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

No report.

SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD: Brenda Mason

The Advisory Board met in November, and voted to give \$1,900 in travel savings as a grant to the Children's Committee for training Youth Service Librarians.

There was a multicultural book fair in October that was very successful.

A new map of library locations is being updated.

There will be training for Youth Services Librarians on the Summer Reading Program in January.

Bruce Johnson attended the Serra Administrative Council meeting and reported that there will be a spring CALTAC workshop on advocacy that people are being encouraged to attend. The workshop will be on March 15 at the Orange County Library.

Serra staff is preparing a grant application for the funding of 15 scholarships for library staff.

CHAIR'S UPDATE: Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz noted the successful groundbreaking of the new Logan Heights Branch Library, and distributed a fact sheet about the Logan Heights and Skyline Hills projects.

The Library Foundation is focusing on fundraising for the New Main Library and the Skyline Hills and Mission Hills Branch Libraries. The Foundation has also obtained contributions to pay for a new circulation desk at the Paradise Hills Branch Library.

The *San Diego Union-Tribune* will be running an article on the new Main Library this weekend.

The Foundation sent out letters to major donors about the One Book One San Diego program. Included were copies of the book *Three Cups of Tea* and three tea bags. There will be an event at the Scripps-Miramar Ranch Branch Library in February with the author.

The Children's Book Fair is scheduled for May 4 at the North University Community Branch Library. The Mayor's wife will be honorary chair.

The Library Director has begun conducting monthly tours of the Central Library and lunches with major donors. The program was suggested by Commissioner Sullivan, who also attended the first luncheon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Anna Tatár

- Ms. Tatár thanked the Commissioners for their hard work and support throughout the year, and gave them copies of *Three Cups of Tea* and tea bags as a small token of thanks.
- Jay Hill provided a fund raising update, and distributed the most recent Library Foundation mailing. Also distributed was the Foundation's Mission/Vision/Values Statement, which was adopted by the Board after spending a full day at the San Diego Foundation crafting the document. The Foundation has raised approximately \$9 million in its first five years, but plans to raise an additional \$50 million in the next three years.

- Bruce Johnson reviewed a memorandum which summarized electronic resources at the Library. Particularly notable is the growth of two-way electronic communication between the Library and customers. An annual E-Services report for FY 2007 was attached to the memo, which summarized a number of measures that are collected.

Among the projects in development are a blog to focus on library technology and staffing issues, and a Spanish translation of the Library Catalog.

In response to a question from Commissioner Katz concerning whether all electronic materials were available via remote access, Mr. Johnson stated that there are a few database resources that are only accessible in the Library. Availability is determined by cost or the nature of the subject material.

Commissioner Sullivan noted the challenge of getting the public to understand that these databases are unique and proprietary, and not available on GOOGLE. Mr. Johnson responded that the library card is important because it allows for authentication, which is required by vendors to ensure that users are San Diego residents. This, in turn, impacts the purchase rates charged by databases.

Commissioner Harvey asked about laptop checkouts. Mr. Johnson responded that a few are available at the Central Library, the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library, and soon to be implemented at the City Heights/Weingart branch. The equipment is only available for use in the Library, as a pilot check-out program found that these laptops were damaged quickly.

Commissioner Harvey asked whether the Library has considered expanding wireless access to the public beyond the library facilities. Ms. Tatár responded that this will be discussed with our information technology staff and reported back.

- Ms. Tatár thanked Commissioner Harvey for purchasing a table at the Association of Fundraising Professionals annual awards lunch. Also thanked was Foundation Board Chair Judith Harris for inspiring staff to pursue funding to refurbish the Paradise Hills Branch Library.
- The next two City Club events are planned for January 17 and February 13.
- Ms. Tatár referred to a *Wall Street Journal* article about the Kindle hand held e-book reader.

AGENDA ITEMS

10.a Library System Update

Working drawings for the new Main Library were submitted to the State Library, and the City is now reviewing the State's comments. The State is very diligent in its review.

Mosher Drew Watson Ferguson was selected as the architecture firm to design the new Mission Hills Branch Library. The preliminary design has been done, and community meetings have been held.

Ms. Tatár will provide a list of library project architects at the next meeting.

10.b Budget Update

The Mayor summarized his eight areas of focus in his FY 2007 Five Year Financial Plan. Those will be the same areas of focus for the development of the FY 2009 budget.

A half-time Youth Services Librarian at the La Jolla/Riford Branch will return to full-time status in January thanks to funding from the Cameron Trust Fund. Rancho Bernardo will be receiving a \$1 million estate gift.

10.c Legislative Update

Motion

Motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan to send letters supporting increased funding of the Public Library Fund to the Governor and State legislators at the appropriate time.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner McCarty.

The motion passed unanimously.

Staff will check with Governmental Relations concerning timing of the letters.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.



ANNA TATÁR
Library Director

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